

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-13 CU-02 AID-05 /082 W
-----111409Z 037727 /44

P R 102205Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2179
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMCONSUL RECIFE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 4794

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN), BR
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS/MANIFESTOS GIVEN CARTER PARTY
DURING VISIT TO BRAZIL

REF: BRASILIA 4680

1. SUMMARY. REFLECTING AND AMPLIFYING THE PREDOMINANCE
(AT LEAST IN THE PUBLIC EYE) OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS THEME
DURING MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO BRAZIL, MEMBERS OF THE
OFFICIAL PARTY RECEIVED AT LEAST FIVE REPORTS OR WRITTEN
DECLARATIONS ON LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS ADDRESSED
TO MRS. CARTER BY PRIVATE BRAZILIAN CITIZENS. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING MRS. CARTER'S STAY IN BRAZIL, MEMBERS OF THE
OFFICIAL PARTY RECEIVED SEVERAL HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS
OR MANIFESTOS ADDRESSED TO MRS. CARTER BY PRIVATE BRAZILIAN
CITIZENS. DEPARTMENT IS ALREADY AWARE OF LETTER ALLEGEDLY
WRITTEN TO MRS. CARTER BY STRIKING STUDENTS OF UNIVERSITY
OF BRASILIA (UNB), AND DELIVERED TO AMBASSADOR TODMAN,
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AS WELL AS TO PRESS (REFTEL). LETTER PROVOKED FURTHER
REACTION JUNE 8 BY ARENA DEPUTY ALVARO VALLE, WHO DELIVERED
SPEECH IN CONGRESS WHICH HINTED BROADLY THAT LETTER WAS A
US PLOT, AND MAINTAINED THAT INTERNAL EVIDENCE
DEMONSTRATED THAT DOCUMENT WAS NEITHER WRITTEN BY A BRAZILIAN
NOR TYPED ON A BRAZILIAN MACHINE. SENATOR JARBAS PASSARINHO
(ARENA) POINTED OUT THAT EVEN THE UNB STRIKE COMMITTEE

WAS NOT CLAIMING AUTHORSHIP, AND SAID THAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE NOT IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH THE NONIDEOLOGICAL TONE OF THE LETTER. (EMBASSY COMMENT: IN FACT, WHEN A NUMBER OF LAW FACULTY STUDENTS CIRCULATED A NOTE IN CONGRESS CONDEMNING DELIVERY OF LETTER AS UNPATRIOTIC, STRIKE COMMITTEE, ALTHOUGH DECLARING THOSE STUDENTS TO BE UNREPRESENTATIVE, DID NOT EMBRACE THE LETTER. NOR HAS ANYONE ELSE, IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN THE PROFITLESS RISK INVOLVED. IN ANY EVENT, NOTE CLEARLY HAS BEEN REVIEWED, IF NOT CO-AUTHORED, BY SOMEONE WITH A GOOD BUT NOT PERFECT COMMAND OF ENGLISH EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF A UNIVERSITY-TRAINED NATIVE SPEAKER; AT LEAST ONE TELTALE BRAZILIANISM, HOWEVER, REMAINS IN THE TEXT. ASSUMING FOR MOMENT THAT STUDENTS WROTE LETTER, EXPERT REVIEW MIGHT HAVE BEEN PROVIDED BY ONE OF A NUMBER OF AMERICAN PROFESSORS OR GRAD STUDENTS AT UNB. IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT CONTENTS OF LETTER ARE UNUSUALLY FREE OF THE IDEOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FREQUENTLY ASSOCIATED WITH STUDENT PRODUCTIONS OF THIS SORT. END COMMENT).

3. COMMENTS ON LETTER IN CONGRESS WERE HIGHLIGHTED IN LEAD STORY CARRIED JUNE 9 BY CORREIO BRAZILIENSE, WHICH OFFERED ITS OWN OPINION (STATED RECENTLY IN REGARD TO A NUMBER OF OTHER INCIDENTS) THAT THE AFFAIR HAD BEEN ARRANGED BY THE CIA, ALLEGATION WHICH EMBASSY PRESS SPOKESMAN HAS CATEGORICALLY DENIED.

4. AT HOTEL IN BRASILIA JUNE 7 OR 8, MEMBER OF PARTY RECEIVED AND PROMISED TO DELIVER LETTER FOR MRS. CARTER PRESENTED BY A WOMAN REPRESENTING HERSELF AS LUCIA MAURICIO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DE ALVERGA. (LUCIA ALVERGA IS WIFE OF ALEX POLARI DE ALVERGA, WHO WAS ARRESTED IN 1971 AND HAS SINCE UNDERGONE AT LEAST TWO SEPARATE TRIALS ON CHARGES OF SUBVERSION AND PARTICIPATION IN KIDNAPPING OF SWISS AMBASSADOR IN BRAZIL. POLARI DE ALVERGA IS CURRENTLY SERVING A LIFE SENTENCE IN RIO DE JANEIRO. MRS. ALVERGA'S CONVICTION ON SIMILAR CHARGES WAS OVERTURNED BY A COURT DECISION IN 1975. DEPARTMENT MAY RECALL POLARI'S ROLE AS A SELF-SWORN EYEWITNESS TO THE TORTURE-KILLING OF FELLOW PRISONER STEWART ANGEL JONES IN 1971).

5. LETTER FROM MRS. ALVERGA SUBMITS FOR MRS. CARTER'S INFORMATION (AND DISSEMINATION) A LIST OF NAMES OF 147 POLITICAL PRISONERS (DIVIDED BY STATE) DETAINED SINCE 1964, ALONG WITH AGES, DATES OF ARREST (LARGE MAJORITY DURING 1970-73), AND SENTENCE RECEIVED. (SOME OF THOSE LISTED, CHIEFLY PERSONS ARRESTED IN LATE 1975 IN SANTA CATARINA AND PARANA, HAVE NOT YET COMPLETED TRIAL AND SENTENCING). LETTER PROMISES A FOLLOW-UP REPORT CONCERNING THOSE PERSONS KILLED BY SECURITY FORCES. IT IS SIGNED BY THIRTY-FOUR RELATIVES

OF POLITICAL PRISONERS.

6. AS MRS. CARTER WAS ENTERING CONGRESS JUNE 7 FOR COURTESY CALLS AT SENATE AND CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, BRAZILIAN SECURITY AGENTS PREVENTED TERESINHA GODOY BERBINE, PRESIDENT OF WOMAN'S MOVEMENT FOR AMNESTY, FROM APPROACHING MRS. CARTER TO DELIVER A LETTER. LETTER REPORTEDLY WAS PRESENTED TO MRS. CARTER LATER IN CONGRESS BY MDB DEPUTY GETULIO DIAS (WE CANNOT CONFIRM THIS), AND REPUTED TEXT WAS READ IN SESSION BY MDB DEPUTY PAULO MARQUES. LETTER INTRODUCES WOMAN'S MOVEMENT FOR AMNESTY AS A-POLITICAL GROUP SEEKING LIBERTY AND JUSTICE; EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH AMERICAN WOMANHOOD IN THEIR RECENT FIGHT FOR VIETNAM AMNESTY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND PEACE; AND EXPRESSES RESPECT FOR MRS. CARTER AND FOR HER HUSBAND'S POLICIES IN THOSE AREAS.

7. PRESS REPORTED (INCORRECTLY, ACCORDING TO CONSUL) THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN HER MEETING IN RECIFE WITH LAWRENCE ROSEBAUGH AND THOMAS CAPUANO, TWO AMERICAN CLERICS RECENTLY ARRESTED AND HELD THREE DAYS BY LOCAL POLICE, MRS. CARTER WAS GIVEN A WRITTEN REPORT BY CAPUANO AND A STATEMENT ON THE INCIDENT BY THE MENONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF PERNAMBUCO. IN FACT, ACCORDING TO CONSUL, THESE DOCUMENTS WERE INTENDED FOR DELIVERY ONLY IN EVENT MRS. CARTER WAS UNABLE TO MEET WITH CLERICS (FULL TEXTS BEING REPEATED TO DEPARTMENT AS BRASILIA 4745).

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-13 CU-02 AID-05 /082 W
-----111409Z 037633 /44

P R 102205Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2180
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

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AMCONSUL RECIFE

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8. WHILE IN RECIFE, CARTER PARTY DID RECEIVE TWO LETTERS ADDRESSED TO MRS. CARTER THROUGH THE CONSUL CONCERNING 19 POLITICAL PRISONERS HELD AT ITAMARACA PRISON IN PERNAMBUCO. IN THE FIRST LETTER, FEMALE RELATIVES AND WIVES OF THE PRISONERS COMPLAINED OF STRIP-SEARCHES REQUIRED FOR ADMITTANCE ON VISITS, AND OF DIFFICULTIES OCCASIONED BY VISIT SCHEDULE (8-4 ON SATURDAYS) WHEN COMBINED WITH LIMITED BUS SERVICE FROM RECIFE.

9. IN SECOND LETTER, NOT READ BY CONSUL BUT CIRCULATED AMONG PRESS AND PRINTED IN FULL TEXT BY JORNAL DO BRASIL, PRISONERS THEMSELVES COMPLAINED OF STRICT CONDITIONS OF SOLITARY CONFINEMENT METED OUT TO TWO PRISONERS IN SELECTIVE RETALIATION FOR A MASS HUNGER STRIKE IN LATTER PART OF 1975; OF CENSORSHIP OF NEWS MATERIAL AND DENIAL OF BOOKS TO PRISONERS; AND OF A SERIES OF LESSER DIFFICULTIES (BY THEIR DEFINITION), INCLUDING POOR FOOD, INADEQUATE MEDICAL CARE, LIMITS ON VISITS, SEARCHES OF VISITORS, BEATING OF NON-POLITICAL PRISONERS, UNFAIRNESS OF ORIGINAL TRIALS, AND LACK OF LEGAL ASSISTANCE.
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10. COMMENT. NUMBER OF MANIFESTOS RECEIVED BY OFFICIAL PARTY BOTH REFLECTED AND AMPLIFIED THE PREDOMINANCE OF THE HUN RIGHTS THEME DURING MRS. CARTER'S VISIT. THOUGH OTHER ISSUES WERE DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE AND VENTED IN THE PRESS DURING HER TRIP, THE CARTER POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS, ITS CONTROVERSIAL NATURE HERE, AND THE ONGOING LOCAL TENSION SPAWNED BY WIDESPREAD DEMANDS FOR POLITICAL LIBERALIZATION (OF WHICH STUDENT STRIKES ARE THE LATEST EXAMPLE) ALL COMBINED IN THE PUBLIC EYE TO PLACE HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE AGENDA DURING TRIP. END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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